THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir. However, it was observed in general in the Board meeting held on Sept., 14, 1992, that the Board had made substantial headway in pursuing its ' overall goals through framing the Regional Plan-2001, formulation of Sub-Regional Plan and various functional plans which formed the basis for the 8th plan investment programme for the development of NCR.

(to) NCR related 61 projects have so far been taken up of which 34 have been completed. The total expenditure incurred so far on these schemes amounts to Rs. 184.64 crores of which the Central Government and/or NCR Planning Board have provided financial assistance of Rs. 78.50 crores.

(c) Does not arise.

Estimated Cost for N.C.B. Projects

939. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA ;
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that against an estimated cost of Rs. 2,840 crore for National Capital Region projects, only a provision of only Rs. 200 crores has been made under the 8th Plan;

(b) if so, what observations were made at the meeting of the NCR Planning Board held on September 14, 1992 in this regard to inadequacy of the same; and

(c) what steps are contemplated to meet the requirements of these projects adequately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :. (a) NCR Planning Board has reported that out of the aggregate investment requirement of Rs. 2,840 crore projected by the NCR Planning Board for the 8th Plan period Rs. 1513 crore is under the State sector and the balance of Rs. 1327 crore being part of the Central sector. The provision of Rs. 200 crore is by way of central budgetary support as seed capital for implementation of the State sector schemes and therefore supplements the separate plan outlays to be provided by the concerned Central Ministries as well as the respective State Government and Delhi UT Admn. for NCR infrastructure development in VIII Plan period.

(b) and (c) With a view to ensuring adequacy of funds to meet the State sector component of its projected investment programme in VIII Plan period, NCR Planning Board, at its meeting on 14-9-92, has approved an overall strategy for raising additional funds through a judicious mix of public and private sector investments.

Products in Madhya Pradesh under NCR Plan

940. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain development projects in Madhya Pradesh are to be implemented as part of National Capital Region Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress so far made therein and the expenditure so far incurred thereon by the Central and State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) In the Regional Plan 2001 approved by-NCR Planning Board, Gwalior in M.P. has been identified as Counter-magnet area to be developed outside National Capital Region. NCR Planning Board has provided financial assistance of Rs. 1 crore for this scheme. The details of expenditure incurred by the Govt, of M. P. and progress are being collected and would be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Privatisation of Municipal Services

941. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM :
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI VISHNU KANT SHASTRI:
DR. SANJAYA SINH :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whther it is a fact that Government ane formulating a scheme for the privatisation of certain municipal services in the

country; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government propose to start the scheme from Delhi; and if so, by when this would be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) With a view to improving the efficiency of management of municipal services and the resources available with urban local bodies for infrastructure, various measures have been under consideration of the Government, including involvement of the private sector for the provision of municipal services. While no specific scheme for privatisation of municipal services has been finalised by Government, series of discussions have been held with State Government, Development Authorities and larger Municipal Corporations on the subject, with a view to evolve policy guidelines in this regard. Since Local Self-Government is a State subject, a final decision regarding privatisation of municipal services has to be taken by the State Government/local body themselves.

Construction of High Dams in Himalayas

942. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: DR. R. K. PODDAR :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that construction of high dams in Himalayas region are unsafe;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the warning of the geologistat in this regard; and

(c) if so the details, thereof and the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA) ; (a) No, Sir. Since Independence a number of high dams have been constructed in the Himalayas e.g. Salal in Jammu and Kashmir, Bhakra m Punjab, Pong in Himachal Pradesh, Ramganga and Maneri in Uttar Pradesh, Kopili in Assam and these art' all safe. It may be mentioned that 18—405 RSS/93 even during earthquake of October, ' 1991, 39 metre high concrete gravity dam of Maneri near Uttar Kashi has not suffered and damage though it was located within the epicent ral area.

(b) and (c) From time to time, Geologists in their individual capacity have drawn attention towards the tectonic and seismic features of the Himalayan region.

The Geologists of Geological Survey of India appraise and advise the Project Authorities regarding the regional geological set up, tectonics and seismicity of a project area and their likely impact on the proposed civil engineering structures. The design of the engineering structures are accordingly carried out t by the Project Authorities in consultation with experts as per Indian standards.

Conference of Water Resources and Irrigation Ministers

943. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a conference of Water Resources and Irrigation Ministers was held recently in the capital;

(b) whether it is also a fact that wastage of water in the country was discussed at the Conference and if so, what other points were discussed there; and

(c) the action Government propose to take or already taken on the points discussed at the conference ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The points discussed in the Conference include Funding of Irrigation Projects; Provision of Water Supply from Irrigation Projects; Environmental preparation for Water Resources Projects; Rehabilitation measures for Water Resources Projects; Command Area Development Programmes; Rehabilitation of Minor Irrigation Tanks; Water Shed Programmes, Ground Water Recharge Programme; Flood Management; and Irrigation Management Policy. The recommendations made in the Conference have been finalised and sent to the State Government*.